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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNY #0668 3501454  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 151454Z DEC 08  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7217

UNCLAS OSLO 000668

SIPDIS  
SENSITIVE

FOR HEATHER WARD, IO/MPR/SC AND MICHAEL SCANLON, USUN/MR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AMGT](#) [AORC](#) [APER](#) [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [NO](#)

SUBJECT: NORWEGIANS RESPOND BLANDLY TO UN HARMONIZATION OF  
CONDITIONS OF SERVICE PROPOSAL

REF: SECSTATE 129988

1. (SBU) Poloff spoke with Lars Petter Henie, the deputy  
director of the UN MFA section regarding reftel. Henie said  
he would prefer to respond in a written medium, and this was  
his diplomatic and nuanced response:

"We take great interest in the issue and efforts to improve  
recruitment to UN operations. It has been our experience  
that UNAMA and UNAMI have become better staffed after the  
Fifth Committee granted special benefits for those two  
operations, but of course we agree that over-compensation  
should be avoided. From our point of view addressing the  
recruitment problems is more urgently needed than cost-saving  
measures but we appreciate these very constructive US  
comments."  
WHITNEY